

REMARKS

Claims 15-22 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-14 and 23 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Independent claim 15 is amended to recite additional features. See the originally filed claims 19 and 20, and the specification at, for example, paragraph [0057]. Claims 16, 19 and 20 are amended in view of the amendments to claim 15.

The title is amended, as the Examiner requested.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is respectfully request to acknowledge consideration of the references submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement concurrently filed herewith.

The Office Action objects to the specification. The title is amended, as outlined above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to claim 14. Claim 14 is canceled, rendering this objection moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claim 14 is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-6 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 4,689,689 to Saito et al. (Saito); rejects claims 1 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 4,611,243 to Morisawa et al. (Morisawa); rejects claims 7, 8, 10, 13-16, 18, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Saito in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,483,284 to Ishiguro (Ishiguro); rejects claims 9 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Saito and Ishiguro further in view of JP07098481 to Haraguchi (Haraguchi); and rejects claims 7, 11, 12, 15, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Morisawa in view of Ishiguro. These rejections are moot with regard to canceled claims 1-14 and 23, and are respectfully traversed with regard to remaining claims 15-22, as amended.

Claim 15 recited "a portion of the image pick-up unit that opposes the shutter unit protruding into a portion of the shutter unit," and "the portion of the image pick-up unit that

opposes the shutter unit is located between the shutter curtain and the photoelectric converter, and protruding into the second opening part of the image pick-up unit-side frame." The Office Action recognizes that Saito and Morisawa do not disclose or suggest this feature, but asserts that Ishiguro discloses this feature. However, such an Office Action assertion lacks factual support, as discussed below.

Ishiguro discloses a shutter unit 21 and a camera body 1. See Figs. 2B and 3B. A CCD-back 7 is mounted on the camera body 1. See Figs. 1 and 3B, and col. 2, lines 54-55.

As shown in Figs. 1 and 3B of Ishiguro, the camera body 1, on which the CCD-back 7 is mounted, and a frame that creates aperture 1A are the same member. For example, the symbol "1A" in Fig. 1 is accompanied by a drawing line pointed to the aperture of the camera body 1. See col. 2, lines 63-66. The camera body 1 does not include the shutter unit 21. Thus, in Ishiguro, the shutter unit 21 is a separate element from the camera body 1 and the aperture 1A formed in the camera body 1.

The Office Action asserts that Ishiguro discloses a CCD package 8 that protrudes into the shutter unit 21. However, the CCD package 8 only protrudes into aperture 1A, which is formed in the camera body 1. The CCD package 8 does not reach the shutter unit 21, which is a separate element from the camera body 1. Thus, in Ishiguro, the CCD package 8 does not protrude into any portion of the asserted shutter unit 21. Therefore, Ishiguro does not disclose or suggest "a portion of the image pick-up unit that opposes the shutter unit protruding into a portion of the shutter unit," and "the portion of the image pick-up unit that opposes the shutter unit is located between the shutter curtain and the photoelectric converter, and protruding into the second opening part of the image pick-up unit-side frame," as recited in claim 15.

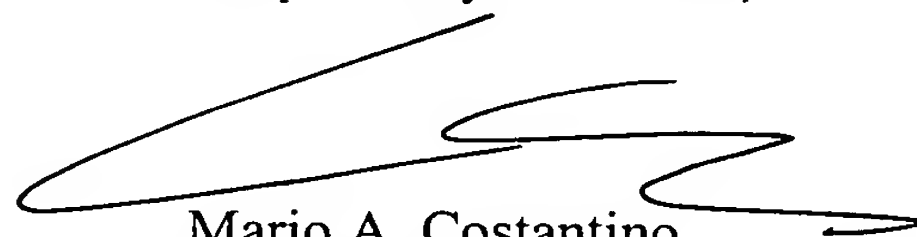
In view of the above, Ishiguro does not supply the subject matter lacking in Saito and Morisawa. Also, Haraguchi does not supply the subject matter lacking in Saito, Morisawa and Ishiguro. Thus, the applied references, either individually or in combination, do not

disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claim 15, and claims 16-22 depending therefrom. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 15-22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: October 16, 2007

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